L'ederationist Index 1961

The first issue of the Federationist nearly 68 years ago opened with a passage from Keats. It was the year 1894 and the poem reflected labor's problems and anxieties of the period in crying out:

"O aching time! O moments big as years! All, as ye pass, swell out the monstrous truth And press it so upon our very griefs That unbelief has not space to breathe."

A lead article by John Swinton held high hopes for the "Labor Reformation" and dwelled on the plight of 2 million unemployed. Another article discussed "convict versus free labor" and another took up the question of labor politics, policies and platforms. One editorial laid down the new magazine's purpose and policy; another demanded "work, not charity" for the jobless. There were letters to the editor, official announcements, a boycott list. And a small ad from Prudential Insurance. The price: 5 cents a copy; 50 cents a year.

During 1961, the Federationist reflected the problems and anxieties-and the achievements-of the current period in history.

Articles in the Federationist this year dealt with many problems facing the worker and his family in a rapidly changing economy and society. There were articles on the phenomenon of high unemployment in a period of relative prosperity, on chronic unemployment which hits certain workers hardest, on the need for greater economic growth, on the need for full employment.

There were articles about the great increase in the number of senior citizens, their growing political awareness and their resolve to help solve their own problems. There were articles about the crucial need for more education in today's world and the crisis of lagging school systems. There were articles on the new technology called automation.

That the trade union view has remained international was shown in articles dealing with the welfare of workers in Latin America and in Asia, on the Berlin crisis, on foreign trade and on the achievements of United Nations agencies.

Thus, this index chronicles the interests and activities of organized labor in these times.



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It should be noted that publications of the Departments of Research and Education were incorporated in the Federationist in mid-1961. Labor's Economic Review, Economic Trends and Outlook and Collective Bargaining Report retain their identification. Education News and Views is a section usually including an article and reviews of books, films and pamphlets, Only titled items appear in the master index.

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